

## In the Claims

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method for providing security with respect to who  
2 provided digital data at what time, said method comprising the steps of:  
3           performing a serially chained certification process including:  
4           a) forming a first interval certification at a first server including the server's  
5               identification, the start time of an interval chain in UTC Coordinated Universal  
6               Time, the start time of the interval in UTC Coordinated Universal Time, the stop  
7               time of the interval, a public key for the interval, a digital signature for the  
8               interval, signed by a previous interval's private key, and a digital signature for the  
9               interval, signed by the interval's private key;  
10          b) upon expiration of the first interval, destroying its private key;  
11          c) continuing steps (a) and (b) for second, third, and following intervals so that intervals  
12               are cross-chained with other servers to form a widely witnessed, temporal web of  
13               signed intervals of time; and  
14          encoding certification information in graphical form to form an indicia that  
15          relates to the authenticity of the document.

1           2.       (Unamended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
2          decoding the indicia to authenticate a document.